

THE ST. LOUIS REPUBLIC

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SUNDAY, JULY 1, 1900.

Charles W. Knapp, President and General Manager of The St. Louis Republic, being duly sworn, says that the actual number of full and complete copies of the daily and Sunday Republic printed during the month of June, 1900, all in regular dates, was as per schedule below:

Copies.	Date.	Copies.
1.....82,470	17 Sunday.....83,914	
2.....83,805	18.....81,550	
3 Sunday.....85,860	19.....82,670	
4.....81,850	20.....84,080	
5.....86,090	21.....83,390	
6.....82,830	22.....83,260	
7.....81,160	23.....84,765	
8.....83,325	24 Sunday.....84,990	
9 Sunday.....85,860	25.....82,150	
10.....82,900	26.....82,460	
11.....81,850	27.....82,890	
12.....81,590	28.....82,490	
13.....82,340	29.....82,090	
14.....82,090	30.....84,550	
15.....82,600		

Total for the month.....2,494,335
 Less all copies spoiled in printing, left over or filed.....40,580
 Average daily distribution.....81,791

And said Charles W. Knapp further says that the number of copies returned or reported unsold during the month of June was 830 per cent.

CHARLES W. KNAPP,
 Sworn to and subscribed before me this thirtieth day of June, 1900.
 J. F. FARISH,
 Notary Public, City of St. Louis, Mo. My term expires April 26, 1901.

LADEN WITH PROMISE.

The decision reached at the meeting of the World's Fair committee to send Governor Francis and Mr. William H. Thompson to the Paris Exposition to work there in the interest of the Louisiana Purchase World's Fair promises much. To establish a Louisiana Purchase World's Fair bureau at the French capital, to interest exhibitors at the Paris Exposition in the American enterprise and to glean information as to expositions, of which Paris has held many, would be a distinct gain to the Louisiana Purchase World's Fair.

If such a commission from St. Louis could carry with it to Paris the official sanction of the Government of the United States its work would be made easier and its opportunities would be enlarged. The effort to obtain such endorsement for the commission should be made.

Paris and France should be especially interested in the celebration of the Louisiana Purchase. The Great Napoleon and the French nation were the other parties to the Purchase transaction. For this reason France should take an especial interest in making the event memorable on its one-hundredth anniversary.

On every count the project of an official visit by St. Louis commission to the Paris Exposition is attractive. This work should be done by heavy men, and Governor Francis and William H. Thompson have shown their weight in the work they have already done for the Fair.

WIGGINS'S RESOLUTIONS.

The people of St. Louis will endorse the resolutions for an investigation of the Supply Department presented in the Council by Councilman Wiggins. They believe that these resolutions state the facts and they believe that a real investigation designed for investigation and action will experience little of the difficulty which Mayor Ziegenhain's "investigation" anticipated and found.

There is literal truth in the assertion contained in the resolutions that the dismissal of the charges against the Supply Department by the Mayor "does not restore public confidence in the officials of the city or remove the cloud upon the integrity or fitness for office of such officials."

A real investigation should have no trouble getting at the truth or falsity of the charges made in the report of the Grand Jury that the city supplies were being bought in a manner contrary to the city ordinances, that the city was paying exorbitant prices for them and that goods were bought without competition from a few favored firms.

The materials for investigating these charges stand in the records of the Supply Commissioner's office, which are in the custody of the city. Testimony regarding the supplies can be given by the superintendents and employees of city institutions and by St. Louis business men who tried to sell supplies to the city and failed for other reasons than that their prices were too high.

These results can be reached as the February Grand Jury probably reached them and without summoning the members of the Grand Jury to testify. Mayor Ziegenhain's "investigation" religiously examined every member of the Grand Jury who was bound by oath not to disclose the facts he knew at second hand, but it did not examine a single employee of the office of the Supply Commissioner, a single head of a city institution, or a single business man who had been unable to cut his prices low enough to get a city supply order.

St. Louisans will be able to determine very soon after the new investigation opened should the Council take the proper course of ordering a new investi-

gation—whether or not the inquiry desires to reach results, and they will support or ignore it accordingly.

EMPIRE OR REPUBLIC?

When the Democratic National Convention of 1900 is called to order for its opening session in Kansas City on the Fourth of July the great representative body then gathered together will stand essentially for the best and soundest Americanism as opposed to a new policy of peculiar peril to American principles and institutions.

The American people have now reached a point in their national history where they must definitely choose between continued allegiance to the fine faith of their fathers and a decisive and deliberate repudiation of that faith for the sake of foreign dominion and conquest for the imperial rewards of loot and booty. Opportunity created by war has developed this temptation to abandon the creed of liberty and justice upon which the United States Government was founded and to which it owes its greatness and majesty. It rests with the American people to say if this temptation shall prevail.

President McKinley and the Republican party have already surrendered to the glamour of Empire. In so far as was possible to him, the President has committed the United States to a policy which is in direct conflict with the spirit and letter of the Declaration of Independence and which has already caused the violation of the American Constitution. If Mr. McKinley is re-elected he will be re-elected on an issue authorizing and sanctioning imperialism. Such authority and sanction must be contained in the vote of November by which his administration and policy are approved.

FOR SUPERIOR WATER.

The recent report of the Board of Public Improvements deserves attention from St. Louisans who are interested in the progress of the plan to filter the water which St. Louisans use.

"There is no reason to doubt," says the report, "that the installation of a filtration plant will render our water superior to the water of cities like New York and Boston, which collect in impounding reservoirs the rainfall from large areas which they are obliged to protect from sewage contamination."

This assertion, coming from engineers who have studied the situation carefully and have no personal interest in the premises, should be a sufficient answer to the promoters who are trying to foist upon the city the Meramec watershed as a source of water supply, with the unavoidable accompaniments of an impounding reservoir and a district to be protected from sewage contamination.

The unwillingness of the board, as expressed in that report, to design a filter plant, using only the information obtainable from other places, has ample foundation in the consideration that there would always be a doubt as to whether the city had availed itself of the method of filtration best adapted to St. Louis's water. Only by a course of scientific experiments can the city be certain that it has spent its money to the best advantage.

A strong commission of St. Louisans, specially appointed, considered for about a year every phase of the knowledge question, availing itself of knowledge which its members had gleaned in extensive travels in order that the million dollars to be spent on a hospital at some future time might be applied to the best advantage.

It does not appear logical that the city should enter upon the construction of a public work to cost about \$3,000,000 without looking over the field as carefully as in the case of the City Hospital. The way to look over the field is to conduct practical experiments with St. Louis's water.

FOREWARNED, FOREARMED.

The conservatism for which St. Louis has a world-wide reputation seems to be at the bottom of the fear expressed in many directions that the depression following the close of the World's Fair will tend to neutralize its good results. The persons who advance this argument point in illustration to Chicago after its big World's Fair. Prices of real estate declined, large districts were honeycombed with tenement houses and business in almost every branch fell off. There was more in this depression, they say, than was accounted for by Congressman Cobb when he said: "After any great event there is a feeling of depression, of loneliness, of a banquet hall deserted by its emptiness and hollow evidences of the fullness of a short time."

The very conservatism which leads St. Louis to such reflections at the inception of a great enterprise will do much to avert or minimize the depression. Chicago had no such misgivings when it started its fair. It discarded every bribe and ran its course without a thought of ultimate results. But, even with such a policy, Chicago suffered very little from depression due to the fair alone. Its fair was held in 1893, the year of the panic and financial depression all over the country. The fair saved Chicago from the immediate effects of the depression, and when the fair closed, the depression struck Chicago. This, coupled with the natural depressing conditions which come "after the ball" and intensified by contrast with the previous festive conditions, affected Chicago.

It is a safe assertion, in view of present fears, that St. Louis will feel the depression following the fair only as the society girl suffers with migraine after a ball. There are muscles sore from dancing, a stomach temporarily impaired by ices and salads incongruously mingled. There is disorder, the wreck of flowers, fan, dance card, robes and wraps, but there is no deep-seated, or-

ganic impairment which a little rest will sorely to reach results, and they will support or ignore it accordingly.

VIGILANCE DEMANDED.

It is to be hoped that the Mayor's proclamation forbidding the discharge of dynamite or cannon crackers, fireworks of any kind, bombs or loose powder on the Fourth of July will be so faithfully observed by the people of St. Louis as to reduce to the minimum the dangers of the Fourth under the exceptional conditions now existing.

That the use of ordinary fireworks, such as skyrockets, Roman candles, fire-crackers and the like is not prohibited by the Mayor will, however, make it extremely difficult for the police to guard against possible acts of violence committed under shelter of the patriotic celebration of the nation's birthday.

There will be a plenty of noise developed by the use of ordinary fireworks. Lawless characters disposed to take advantage of the opportunity any find it safer than it should be to testify mistakenly to their alleged sympathy with the Street Railway Union by imperiling life and property in St. Louis.

The Mayor has not adequately discharged his duty to the community in this instance. A due regard for the public safety demanded the absolute prohibition of all fireworks, explosives or firearms as means of celebrating the Fourth of July. The line should have been clearly drawn that there could be no possible misinterpretation of the Mayor's meaning. While it is true that some hardship might have been caused to dealers in fireworks, it is equally true that the public safety must receive consideration as of more moment than the commercial interests of any class of the community.

The police are earnestly urged to exercise exceptional vigilance on the Fourth. Whatever is possible to prevent disorder should be done. All good citizens should assist in insuring order to the best of their ability. The street railway strike has already cost St. Louis too much in blood, in money and in credit with the outside world.

July 4 will be celebrated this year at Kansas City more effectively than by reading the Declaration of Independence. The day will be celebrated by the adoption of measures to re-establish the integrity and validity of that document.

Councilman Wiggins seems to be one of the large number of St. Louisans who consider that no investigation of the Supply Commissioner's office has yet been held, the Mayor to the contrary notwithstanding.

Grosvener declares that the real Republican platform will be McKinley's letter of acceptance. The Republican party will doubtless be delighted with this information and will put on an extra sprig on that account.

The police authorities should lose no time in training patrolmen to discriminate by ear between permitted and forbidden explosions. Mayor Ziegenhain will doubtless be able to show how it can be done.

Before the blame for the defects in the Philadelphia platform is laid on the revisers it might be well to examine the original. "What's done we partly may compute, but know not what's resisted."

An investigation that investigates the Supply Department is what St. Louisans have been clamoring for and what they have not yet had. The Council can conduct such an investigation if it will.

Roosevelt's Fourth of July speech will be seriously impaired in effectiveness by the fact that he is the nominee of the party that would change the greatest Republic on earth into an Empire.

One refreshing certainty about the Democratic contest for Vice Presidential honors is that such repellent personalities as Hanna, Platt and Quay will be conspicuous by their absence.

Old Missouri will justify the holding of the Democratic National Convention within her borders by rolling up a record-breaking majority for Democratic National and State candidates.

Webster Davis is now declaring his intention of securing the nomination of a Boer sympathy plank in the Democratic platform. Webster Davis might as well teach a duck to swim.

St. Louis World's Fair representatives at the Paris Exposition will profit by learning the mistakes as well as the successes developed during the progress of that enterprise.

Maybe the cartoonists have led Mr. McKinley to believe that he'll have a big majority if he is re-elected to the Presidency merely by the skin of Roosevelt's teeth.

There won't be any imperial dignity attaching to the Democratic National Convention, but the majesty of the American people will be finely in evidence.

Mayor Ziegenhain's pro-and-anti-fireworks proclamation constitutes an exhibition of dodging possibly only to St. Louis's great and only acrobatic clown.

In celebrating Independence Day this year be sure and join the movement to prevent this great and free Republic being transformed into an Empire.

"BUNK WAGON" WAS "HOTTEST WITH HIMSELF."

The Story of a Man's Fight With His Own Unbelief.

Then the deacon heard his son's step. "Charlie," he abruptly demanded, "did you see money from Mr. Leavitt's drawer last night?"

His son started as if he had been stung, and stood staring at his father with dilated eyes. He totally misread the peremptory question. Mr. Leavitt was denouncing a vigorous denial. To his son he seemed to be demanding a shameful confession. Charlie's teeth locked together and his lips compressed themselves defiantly in a quickly gathering passion of resentment. The son had the same firmness, the same power of swift, leading indignation as the father, though the manifestations were very different.

A wagon rumbled by in the street without a bird's careless twitter was heard through the open door.

"Speak up," said Mr. Leavitt, harshly. "I want you to tell these men. Hey you ain't taking none."

The boy's brain was whirling. He stood where he had remained since entering the room. The arm of the lounge was near him. He put out his hand and slightly steadied himself. All the old, hidden shame in his soul sprang into uncontrollable dominion of pride and fury. He saw only three things staring at him all over the room—his father, his mother and his father. They were all eyes on him. They were all waiting for him to say something. They were all waiting for him to say something. They were all waiting for him to say something.

He admitted that he had taken it, and his father interrupted him before he could explain that he had brought the money home with him because he found a defect in one of the post office windows that made it impossible for the lock to hold. The deacon in a strange agony and fury demanded that the boy should say all over the unwilling hand. The deacon had mortgaged his farm to obtain money with which to send Charlie to Albany to study chemistry.

It is a strange fact, says the author, and comes from the fact that to a man fairly keen in his general judgment of others and his general estimate of the outside

WHAT CAPTAIN BRAUN, GERMAN MILITARY INSTRUCTOR OF THE CHINESE, SAYS OF CHINA'S FIGHTING POWERS.

WRITTEN FOR THE SUNDAY REPUBLIC.

Unfortunately for the civilized Powers, the latter have insisted right along that the Chinese is a bad soldier and an arrant coward.

They think one European or American bullet would suffice for every hundred or thousand men the Middle Kingdom can put into the field.

They will find out their error by and by. Perhaps they will find it out too soon, for the time they take to print it.

There are probably not more than half a dozen "foreign devils" who had occasion to form a well-grounded opinion of the present-day Chinese as a fighter. As a Prussian officer who spent several years in China as army instructor, I think mine will prove interesting, even if not accepted by the majority of the masses.

I don't want to say that the Chinese official is dead, but I do say that the spirit of the army has improved, that its morale is better, and that the discipline of the army is over.

The man body of the Chinese army of the present day fights under leaders drafted from the ranks and elected to their position by the soldiers.

That means the soldiers have confidence in them; it means that the officers can rely on their men.

Newspaper talk about "fanatical hordes" is all nonsense. I know all branches of the Chinese army, the first including Manchuria, Mongolia and Chinese hamlets, and I know the provincial troops, which are under the direction of the Governor-General, and the irregulars—none deserve that title of contempt.

The first group is excellently well equipped with Mausers and machine guns; the irregulars arm themselves with improvised weapons, but they are not inferior to the majority of the provincial troops, about 200,000 men, are well drilled, active fighters.

As these troops are not under imperial Germany, but are under the control of the provincial Governors, their armament depends according to their masters' progressive spirit or financial resources. Halberds, pikes and spears are still used.

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